

# Georgia Tech Sponsored Research

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| <b>Project</b>          | B-01-673  |        |
| <b>Project director</b> | Kurfess   | Thomas |
| <b>Research unit</b>    | MARC  |        |
| <b>Title</b>            | Japan USA Symposium on Flexible Automation:<br>Hiroshima, Japan, July 15-17 |        |
| <b>Project date</b>     | 5/31/2003   |        |

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Project Director(s): KURFESS THOMAS R

Unit:

MARC

Initiation Date:

15-MAR-2002

Project Title:

JAPAN USA SYMPOSIUM ON FLEXIBLE AUTOMATION: HIROSHIMA, JAPAN, JULY 15-17...

Contract thru: GTRC

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Alvin Whiteside

**From:** fastlane@fastlane.nsf.gov  
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**Subject:** Project Report Submitted - Award # 0203940 PI: Thomas R Kurfess

Award Number : 0203940  
Report Type : Final Project Report ; Standard Grant  
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Report Period : 03/15/2002 to 02/28/2003  
PI Name : Thomas R Kurfess  
PI E-mail : tom.kurfess@me.gatech.edu  
Note:  
PI has been notified by E-mail at address tom.kurfess@me.gatech.edu.

2003 JUN 4 AM 8 20  
GTRC/OSP

**Final Report for Period:** 03/2002 - 02/2003**Submitted on:** 06/03/2003**Principal Investigator:** Kurfess, Thomas R.**Award ID:** 0203940**Organization:** GA Tech Res Corp - GIT**Title:**

Japan-USA Symposium on Flexible Automation; Hiroshima, Japan, July 15-17, 2002

**Project Participants****Senior Personnel****Name:** Kurfess, Thomas**Worked for more than 160 Hours:** Yes**Contribution to Project:****Post-doc****Graduate Student****Undergraduate Student****Technician, Programmer****Other Participant****Research Experience for Undergraduates****Organizational Partners****Other Collaborators or Contacts****Activities and Findings****Research and Education Activities:**

The proposal supplemented travel to Hiroshima, Japan to attend the 2002 Japan-USA Symposium on Flexible Automation. The major research activities presented in this area are in the areas of controls, automation and manufacturing.

**Findings:**

There were a number of major findings in the areas of controls, automation and manufacturing, including means to improve the accuracies and precisions of a variety of manufacturing processes, improved health issues related to manufacturing, as well as micro and nano systems technology.

**Training and Development:**

Because of the availability of these funds, a number of graduate students were provided with the opportunity of traveling to Japan for this conference. Not only were they able to participate in the technical side of the conference, but they were also able to be immersed in Japanese culture and exchange ideas and concepts with their counterparts in Japan. It was culturally and technically enriching for all who participated. Given the global nature of engineering and manufacturing, this is critical from a professional development perspective.

**Outreach Activities:**

As many corporations and researchers work on a global or international level, a scientific and cultural exchange between engineers and scientists from various nations has become more critical than ever. In many cases, this program permitted the initial seeds of future

collaboration between the US and the Japanese participants to be planted. It is anticipated that not only did a number of students receive technical information that will be used as they graduate and enter careers in academe and industry, but they received a cultural experience that will be of significant aid as they prepare to enter a profession that is heavily globalized.

**Journal Publications**

**Books or Other One-time Publications**

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**Categories for which nothing is reported:**

- Organizational Partners
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